

# STAR

Washington Department of Ecology  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Department of Energy



June 12, 1989

## COMMENTS SOUGHT ON CLEANUP OF HANFORD'S 1100 AREA

As you probably know, the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent order was signed on May 15 following a 45-day public comment period during which many of you gave us your comments.

We want to give you an update on the status of the Agreement and share with you actions our respective agencies — the Washington Department of Ecology, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy — took as a result of the comments we received at workshops, hearings and in writing.

We also invite you to participate in the first formal cleanup activity to be conducted under the Agreement. The 1100-EM-1 Operable Unit Work Plan will be released for public comment on June 15. More about that is included in the enclosed fact sheet.

On June 28 and 29, the first of our quarterly meetings will be held. The first will be in Richland, June 28, at the Holiday Inn, 1515 George Washington Way, and the second will be in Seattle, June 29, at the Seattle Center, Conference Room A on the third floor of the Seattle Center House. Both will begin at 7 p.m. Topics of an introductory discussion by representatives of Ecology and EPA will be the signing of the Agreement, the cleanup investigation process, the 1100-EM-1 Operable Unit and other upcoming work.

Before signing the Agreement on May 15, the three parties agreed to a number of changes including a 14-month investigation into the content and effects of liquid waste streams from Hanford facilities. These were a result of comments received from the public. The three agencies will use the results of the investigation to determine if some or all of the discharges should be halted or phased out on an accelerated schedule. At the signing ceremony in Richland, attended by Gov. Booth Gardner, we issued a press release and a fact sheet outlining the changes that resulted from public comment. We've also enclosed those for your information.

By now we had hoped to have completed our written responses to your comments. However, a number of things have slowed the process, not the least of which is the hospitalization of Jay Manning, Washington Assistant Attorney General, who many of you met during the workshops and hearings. Jay, who negotiated the legal aspects of the Agreement for the state, suffered a severe attack of appendicitis. We're happy to report he is doing well. We will mail you the summary of our responses to the comments as soon as possible.

We expect the final Agreement to be printed within the next two weeks. If you would like a copy, please write to Roger Stanley, Washington Department of Ecology, Mail Stop PV-11, Olympia, WA, 98504-8711.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call any one of us. Thank you for your continued interest in the important job of environmental restoration of the Hanford Site and we hope to see you at the meetings in Richland and Seattle.

Sincerely,

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